

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing you today to address a concern I have with the AT&T Wireless purchase of T-Mobile USA. I will first start out with my credentials, I am a mobile technology reporter for an Android based website who does daily news reporting on the wireless industry, as well as I'm an owner of a small construction company based in Seattle Washington, who is a customer of T-Mobile.

My biggest complaint about this purchase is the matter of how AT&T prices their plans and how their idea of plan layout is not in the consumers best interest. As the purchaser of our companys cell phones I keep up with what the carrier pricing is and that is why we ended up with T-Mobile as our companys cellular carrier. Our company has only three lines, in which we use approximately 2500 minutes a month, and all three lines use approximately 5GB of data each month. Currently this only costs our company \$175 a month before taxes. AT&T with their restrictions on Unlimited Data we would have to buy the \$45 4GB plan instead of T-Mobiles \$25 Unlimited Data. The fact that we would be exceeding AT&Ts 4GB limitation on each of our lines by 1GB, we would be penalized \$10 per line for the 1GB that exceeded the limit. Overall doing a plan comparison we would be paying a total of \$355 per month before taxes being on the AT&T network. This is a monthly difference of \$180 which equates to a \$2160 increase per year, or \$4320 over the two year contract. An elimination of one of the two cheap National Carriers being consumed by the most expensive of the four major US carriers would be directly against the consumers best interest. In these comparisons I'm not even considering the ability for a duopoly to easily price match each other until the US consumers are paying higher rates than the rates I just calculated. I do understand that it would be up to the US consumer to choose to leave AT&T due to the plan increases, but you know as well as I do that consumers often just accept what they get and do not question the overall financial impact their decision has on their lives. There is no doubt in my mind that if AT&T is allowed to purchase T-Mobile, I will take my companies business to a different carrier.

My second complaint with this purchase is that AT&T would be the sole National Carrier in the United States with GSM technology, which would mean that companies who wish to have the ability to use their cell phones over seas would have to stick to AT&T due to the SIM card dependent technology behind AT&Ts network infrastructure. Both Sprint and Verizon do not have GSM networks therefore are not compatible with overseas carriers networks. In the end AT&T would have a monopoly over the GSM standard, and the customers who wish to have International compatibility with their handsets would be forced into AT&Ts extremely high rates.

My third complaint would be how this purchase would consolidate the corporate end of these two companies and would eliminate much of T-Mobiles corporate positions based here in Bellevue Washington, a neighboring city to Seattle Washington. This would lead to more unemployed workers at a time that the US economy has a very high unemployment rate. Just like the situation where

Chase Bank purchased failing Washington Mutual which lead to a large influx of unemployed corporate skilled workers to the Seattle job market due to the corporate consolidation and the lay off of much of Washington Mutuals employees being that Chase is based out of New York City.

My final complaint is something that AT&T brought up in their reasons for why they should be allowed to purchase T-Mobile, otherwise I would not mention this because it is largely based on personal preference, but being that they decided to bring it up, so will I. They insisted that T-Mobile fails to have a compelling offering of cellular phone options. I take this as an offense to my taste, like I mentioned before I am a mobile tech writer for a Google Android centric website. T-Mobile from the beginning of the Operating System has been a large supporter of Googles mobile Operating System, Android. T-Mobile has also insisted on many of its models that it would stick to Googles stock build of Android which is very open, and allows much customizability without being "skinned" by a manufacturer to alter its looks and usability. AT&T has a history of locking down their Android offerings to halt what the consumer would like to rightfully do with their device that they purchased. In a situation where if I purchased an application directly from the developer instead of going through Googles Android Market, with an AT&T phone I would not be able to "Side load" this application. Meaning I am blocked from installing an application I purchased on a phone I own, because AT&T Corporate designated that I am not allowed this option, even though it is built into the Operating System at its foundation. AT&T even though it has the most compatible GSM frequencies with the International market has failed to bring compelling Android phones to their portfolio. They have been too focused on pushing Apples iPhone as their go to product. So for AT&T to say that T-Mobile fails to have a compelling portfolio of devices while AT&T focuses so greatly on a single device it is simply absurd to me. It seems like AT&T places so much value on a single device that they consider their lower competition as having lack luster offerings.

I beg of you to consider not allowing AT&T to purchase T-Mobile USA. It would hurt the US wireless market through a lack of competition, the US consumers financially as well as forcing them into fewer hardware options, T-Mobile employees and the Seattle job market, and Google Androids market presence as well as all the international manufacturers who depend on a T-Mobiles mentality towards offering the most Android handsets to their customers.

Thank you for your time,

Darryl Doak